

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES  
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ADMINISTRATION  
Olympia, Washington**

**To:** Physicians  
Outpatient Hospitals  
Health Departments  
Certified Dietitians  
Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners  
Managed Care Plans  
CSO Administrators  
Regional Administrators

**Memorandum No: 00-59 MAA**  
**Issued:** September 18, 2000

**For Information Call:**  
1-800-562-6188

**Supersedes:** 00-38 MAA

**From:** James C. Wilson, Assistant Secretary  
Medical Assistance Administration (MAA)

**Subject: Clarification for MAA Providers Billing for Outpatient Nutritional Counseling**

This memo is to clarify that the Medical Assistance Administration (MAA) reimburses providers with certified dietitians on staff and certified dietitians in private practice for nutritional counseling services.

MAA reimburses for outpatient nutritional counseling services when **both** of the following conditions are met:

- Services are provided by certified dietitians to clients 20 years of age and younger; **and**
- The clients have been referred through the Health Kids/EPSDT (Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment) program.

Primary Care Providers (PCPs) who prescribe medical nutrition must ensure that clients receive nutritional counseling by a certified dietitian within 30 days of the initiation of medical nutrition.

Bill MAA using the directions in the Nutritional Counseling Services Billing Instructions, dated October 2000. If you did not receive a copy of this billing instruction from MAA, you may download a copy by accessing MAA's website at <http://maa.dshs.wa.gov>, "Billing Instructions" link or call MAA's Provider Relations Unit at 1-800-562-6188 to request a hard copy.

## What will change?

### Currently:

Providers billing for nutritional counseling services performed by certified dietitians on their staff must write the name of the certified dietitian in the performing provider field on their claim [UB-92 in form locator #82 (Attending Physician's I.D.) or HCFA-1500 in field #33 (PIN)].

### Changes:

**Effective for dates of service on and after January 1, 2001**, all certified dietitians will be required to have a provider number (at a minimum, an ID-only provider number) issued by MAA if their services are to be reimbursed. Claims must reference this provider number. The new claim form requirements will be:

- Physicians, health departments, and Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners who bill for certified dietitians on staff and certified dietitians in private practice must put the certified dietitian's provider number in field #33 (PIN) on the HCFA-1500 claim form.
- Outpatient hospitals that bill for certified dietitians on their staff must put the certified dietitian's provider number in form locator #82 (Attending Physician's I.D.) on the UB-92 claim form.

An application to obtain an MAA provider number is attached to this memo. Certified dietitians who need a provider number must complete this form and mail it to:

**Provider Enrollment**  
**PO Box 45562**  
**Olympia, WA 98504-5562**

Please fill in the appropriate fields on the form. If you need assistance, you may call Provider Enrollment at 1-800-562-6188 and select option #1.

Attachment